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PATENT
Att'y Dkt. No. 1950.006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Lawrence A. Denny)
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned)
Filed: Herewith)
For: PRESCRIPTION VERIFICATION)
SYSTEM)

JC875 U.S. PTO
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Box IDS
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

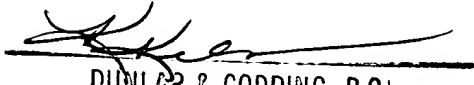
TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
CONCURRENT WITH FILING OF APPLICATION (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed concurrently with the above-referenced application. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED

PTO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT CHARGE
ACCOUNT # 04-1700


DUNLAP & CODDING, P.C.



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

**List of Sections Forming Part of This
Information Disclosure Statement**

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

1. [X] Preliminary Statements
2. [X] FORM PTO-1449 (Modified)
3. [X] Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying this Statement
4. [X] Statement as to Information Not Found in Patents or Publications
5. [X] Identification of Person(s) Making this Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant: Lawrence A. Denny
For: **PRESCRIPTION VERIFICATION SYSTEM**
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Section 1. Preliminary Statements

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

Section 2. Form PTO-1449 (Modified)

☒ [X] A completed Form 1449 (Modified) is attached hereto.

Section 3. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying this Statement

Legible copies of all items listed in Form PTO-1449 (Modified) accompany this information disclosure statement.

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**Section 4. Statements as to Information Not Found in Patents or Publications
(Information not listed in PTO 1449 (Modified))**

The prescription drug industry consists of several different organizations and professionals. These groups included the health care providers, pharmacies, insurance companies, federal agencies, state agencies, local agencies, and pharmaceutical firms. Each of these groups function virtually autonomous from the others, and each has its own specific interests. This autonomy, coupled with a lack of centralized information, frequently leads to errors in the ordering and filling of drug prescriptions, improper use of prescribed drugs, fraud within the system, and increased costs to each group within the industry.

There are approximately 630,000 prescribers of pharmaceuticals and 76,000 pharmacies in the United States which filled 2.6 billion prescriptions last year. It has been estimated that up to \$25 billion per year is attributable to drug fraud and abuse. Additionally, the U.S. General Accounting Office suggests that inappropriate use of prescription drugs exceeds \$20 billion per year. Although certain ones of the groups previously mentioned, namely the insurance companies, maintain information relating to their clients, there exists no nationally recognized or easily accessible system for maintaining information on prescription drugs to minimize fraud, abuse, and errors associated with the prescription drug industry.

Furthermore, prescriptions handwritten by physicians are frequently misinterpreted, or completely illegible to the filling pharmacist. Even where such handwritten prescriptions are partially legible, the patient is at great risk of the dosage and special instructions being incorrectly labeled on the final prescription.

Problems also exist with prescribed medications, since patients frequently are unaware of the specific type of medications they are currently taking or simply forget. This presents a serious problem since drug interactions may be dangerous, if not fatal. However, there does not exist a centralized system for a health care provider to determine current prescription medications that a specific patient may be using.

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Thus, a need exists for a prescription verification system that is readily accessible to the groups previously mentioned, and more specifically, but not by way of limitation, to the health care provider which prescribes the medications and the pharmacies which fill the prescriptions. It is to a prescription verification system capable of minimizing the fraud, abuse and errors associated with prescription drugs that the present invention is directed.

Section 5. Identification of Person(s) Making this INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The person making this statement is the attorney who signs below on the basis of the information:

- ☒ supplied by the inventor(s)
- ☐ supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)).
- ☒ in the attorney's file

Respectfully submitted,



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